

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN NOVEMBER 2004

Domestic primary aluminum production in November was 206,481 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate was 6,883 t, 1% higher than that of the previous month but 4% below the rate for November 2003. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to 89.38 cents per pound in November from 89.13 cents per pound in October, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) fluctuated during November. The price range began the month at 61–63 cents per pound. On November 10, the price range decreased by

a penny to 60–62 cents per pound. The price range remained at this level until November 30, when it increased to 62–64 cents per pound.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased in December to 90.95 cents per pound, its highest level in almost 10 years. On December 7, the American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased a penny to 63–65 cents per pound and remained at this level through the end of the year.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2003 ⁵	2,703	1,750 ^r	1,070 ^r	2,820 ^r	2,870	822	3,690	9,210 ^r	1,400
2003:									
November	215	147	99	246	233	67	301	761	1,390
December	221	139	86	226	243	64	306	753	1,400
January-November	2,482	1,630	1,080	2,700	2,630	759	3,380	8,570	1,390
2004:									
January	216	151	94	245	211	64	274	735	1,430
February	202	155	83	238	288	69	356	797	1,430
March	217	161	100	261	248	76	324	801	1,420
April	209	152	102	253	254	72	326	788	1,440
May	217	156	102	258	282	76	357	832	1,430
June	204	142	102	244	309	80	389	838	1,440
July	209	152	100	251	297	80	377	837	1,480
August	210	158	106	264	225	87	312	786	1,480
September	203	152	105	257	279	84	364	824	1,420 ^r
October	211	160 ^r	105 ^r	265 ^r	286	84	370	846	1,390
November	206	150	103	253	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-November	2,305	1,690	1,100	2,790	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^rRevised. NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

⁵Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2003 ² :	1,680	1,220	852	736	821	766	103	92	9	9	3,460	2,820
2003:												
November	138	102	75	64	75	70	11	10	(3)	(3)	299	246
December	126	93	61	52	76	71	10	9	(3)	(3)	274	226
January-November	1,540	1,130	798	689	820	765	121	109	5	5	3,280	2,700
2004:												
January	133	99	57	51	90	84	11	10	(3)	(3)	292	245
February	133	98	50	45	90	85	11	10	1	1	285	238
March	146	108	64	57	92	86	11	10	(3)	(3)	313	261
April	141	105	65	57	89	83	9	8	(3)	(3)	304	253
May	140	103	68	60	93	87	8	7	1	1	310	258
June	135	100	62	55	88	82	8	7	(3)	(3)	294	244
July	136	100	66	58	91	85	8	7	(3)	(3)	302	251
August	146	108	67	60	95	89	8	7	(3)	(3)	317	264
September	143	105	67	59	91	84	9	8	(3)	(3)	309	257
October	147 ^r	109 ^r	64	56	97	91	9	8	(3)	(3)	318 ^r	265 ^r
November	145	107	64	56	87	81	9	8	(3)	(3)	305	253
January-November	1,550	1,140	693	614	1,000	937	101	90	5	5	3,350	2,790

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes monthly and annual data.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN NOVEMBER 2004¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	121,000	145,000	89,200	107,000
Integrated aluminum companies	63,500	63,500	56,000	56,000
Independent mill fabricators	72,500	87,000	67,800	81,400
Foundries	7,260	8,710	6,430	7,720
Other consumers	361	434	361	434
Total	265,000	305,000	220,000	253,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN NOVEMBER 2004¹

(Metric tons)

	November				January-November ²	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	19,200 ^r	73,900	75,000	18,200	858,000	859,000
Can stock clippings	2,600	23,600	23,800	2,380	275,000	276,000
Other clippings	3,180 ^r	8,100	8,110	3,180	85,900	86,800
Borings and turnings	4,280 ^r	18,000	17,800	4,470	190,000	190,000
Dross and skimmings	4,940 ^r	33,800	33,700	5,020	360,000	360,000
Total new scrap	34,200 ^r	157,000	158,000	33,200	1,770,000	1,770,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	11,500 ^r	32,100	31,300	12,200	341,000	340,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,200 ^r	1,840	1,560	1,490	19,100	19,100
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	5,070 ^r	61,300	62,700	3,660	662,000	672,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	820 ^r	9,960	9,760	1,020	94,800	96,100
Total old scrap	18,600 ^r	105,000	105,000	18,400	1,120,000	1,130,000
Sweated pig	68	711	709	70	8,130	8,120
Total all classes	52,900 ^r	263,000	265,000	51,700	2,890,000	2,910,000

¹Revised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2004^{1, 2}

(Metric tons)

	November				January-November ³	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,490 ^r	1,240	1,450	3,280	16,300	16,500
380 and variations	8,270 ^r	22,600	23,200	7,580	253,000	252,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,610 ^r	4,040	4,040	2,610	45,200	45,200
No. 319 and variations	4,070 ^r	9,720	9,650	4,140	113,000	114,000
F-132 alloy and variations	1,300 ^r	1,650	1,670	1,280	25,300	25,500
Al-Zn alloys	227 ^r	131	140	218	1,550	1,550
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	39	3	3	39	34	34
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	50	381	381	50	4,190	4,190
Other ⁴	4,390 ^r	6,280	5,050	5,610	70,300	69,300
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,200	21,700	21,700	10,200	230,000	229,000
Total all alloys	34,600 ^r	67,700	67,300	35,000	759,000	759,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	9,450	XX	XX	111,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,060	XX	XX	35,700	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	713	XX	XX	7,960	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	54,400	XX	XX	604,000	XX

^rRevised. XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revised data from previous months.

⁴Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2004¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	October	January-October	October	January-October	October	January-October	October	January-October
Argentina	5,040	61,500	93	515	--	204	5,140	62,200
Australia	7,400	57,800	2	76	--	35	7,400	57,900
Bahrain	277	1,870	1,110	10,400	--	--	1,390	12,300
Belgium	--	688	768	9,310	--	--	768	9,990
Brazil	30,500	181,000	4,060	25,500	2,280	4,280	36,800	211,000
Canada	140,000	1,410,000	42,300	410,000	30,900	297,000	213,000	2,120,000
China	1,090	10,300	4,480	42,700	81	170	5,650	53,200
France	7	2,530	521	6,310	74	251	603	9,090
Germany	77	4,250	7,380	67,100	241	812	7,700	72,100
Ghana	40	1,830	--	--	--	--	40	1,830
Hungary	--	--	650	2,710	--	--	650	2,710
Italy	(2)	450	196	1,650	--	--	196	2,100
Japan	379	1,390	1,290	9,120	52	457	1,720	11,000
Korea, Republic of	--	52	307	2,520	--	29	307	2,600
Mexico	--	1,260	2,120	17,900	6,110	73,300	8,230	92,500
Netherlands	77	929	318	2,310	--	191	395	3,430
Norway	100	656	5	117	--	5	105	777
Russia	74,700	694,000	3,940	30,600	342	9,320	79,000	734,000
South Africa	5,030	31,500	3,060	28,900	--	--	8,090	60,400
Spain	--	97	179	912	--	--	179	1,010
Sweden	--	1,300	392	2,900	--	188	392	4,400
Switzerland	--	(2)	363	3,280	--	--	363	3,280
Ukraine	--	--	--	--	--	44	--	44
United Arab Emirates	4,860	46,400	--	1	106	274	4,970	46,700
United Kingdom	553	6,180	214	2,440	263	3,720	1,030	12,300
Venezuela	11,900	122,000	1,400	17,400	1,120	16,200	14,400	156,000
Other	3,560	38,100	9,060	76,600	4,570	47,400	17,200	162,000
Total	286,000	2,680,000	84,200	771,000	46,100	454,000	416,000	3,900,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2004¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	January-		January-		January-		January-	
	October	October	October	October	October	October	October	October
Australia	17	101	231	1,850	--	8	248	1,950
Azerbaijan	--	--	--	(2)	--	--	--	(2)
Belgium	38	441	609	4,650	--	61	647	5,150
Brazil	15	247	461	9,550	--	(2)	476	9,800
Canada	10,900	111,000	46,700	452,000	12,900	120,000	70,500	682,000
China	114	421	4,410	27,300	32,700	249,000	37,200	277,000
Czech Republic	--	1	17	133	--	--	17	135
Dominican Republic	(2)	10	22	581	--	--	22	591
France	--	104	674	5,490	2	176	676	5,770
Germany	23	378	393	3,740	--	241	416	4,360
Hong Kong	3	89	1,180	7,080	719	9,750	1,900	16,900
India	--	128	19	189	337	5,060	356	5,380
Israel	110	999	166	1,790	--	19	276	2,810
Italy	--	37	201	1,720	--	42	201	1,800
Japan	179	4,610	668	5,730	2,270	19,600	3,110	30,000
Korea, Republic Of	163	600	1,050	14,500	5,550	41,600	6,760	56,700
Malaysia	(2)	12	60	984	--	23	61	1,020
Mexico	15,000	119,000	16,400	131,000	3,670	31,500	35,000	281,000
Netherlands	63	349	92	614	20	211	174	1,180
Russia	--	5	--	26	--	--	--	32
Saudi Arabia	--	29	1,900	13,600	--	(2)	1,900	13,600
Singapore	34	190	219	1,420	--	362	254	1,970
Spain	1	125	46	665	118	1,650	164	2,440
Sweden	--	--	37	218	--	--	37	218
Taiwan	41	510	432	5,050	3,470	31,500	3,950	37,000
Tajikistan	--	--	32	84	--	--	32	84
Thailand	24	137	491	3,080	707	2,960	1,220	6,180
United Kingdom	36	737	1,070	9,860	7	150	1,120	10,800
Venezuela	5	20	89	1,430	--	3	93	1,450
Ukraine	--	--	(2)	(2)	--	--	(2)	(2)
Other	105	3,140	2,240	17,300	3,550	20,200	5,890	40,600
Total	26,900	243,000	79,900	722,000	66,000	534,000	173,000	1,500,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.